



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: ELKE HELFTENBEIN EXAMINER: ETHAN C. WHISENANT
SERIAL NO.: 09/762,643 GROUP: 1655
FILED: JANUARY 31, 2002
FOR: VESSEL FOR WITHDRAWING BLOOD
AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.312

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22311

S i r:

An obvious error having been detected in claim 1, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1 (twice amended). A blood withdrawing vessel containing a nucleic acid-stabilizing aqueous solution for stabilizing nucleic acids in the withdrawn blood directly upon contact with the solution, the solution comprising the following components:

- a guanidinium salt in a concentration of 1 to 8.0 M;
- a buffer substance in a concentration of 10 to 300 mM;
- a reducing agent in a concentration of 0.1 to 10%, by wt; and
- a detergent in a concentration of 5 to 30%, by wt.

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